

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

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SUBJECT:VISIT OF MAYOR AND MRS. WALTER WASHINGTON

1. MAYOR WALTER E. WASHINGTON AND MRS. BENNETTA B. WASHINGTON HAVE BEEN INVITED TO VISIT THE SOVIET UNION, POLAND AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA DURING JUNE OF THIS YEAR. INVITATIONS HAVE BEEN EXTENDED PERSONALLY BY THE EMBASSIES OF THE SOVIET UNION (COUNSELOR ISAKOV), POLAND (AMBASSADOR TRAMPCZYNSKI) AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA (AMBASSADOR SPACIL). ALL THREE HAVE OFFERED TO PAY ALL EXPENSES WITHIN THEIR

COUNTRIES FOR MAYOR AND MRS. WASHINGTON AND THE MAYOR'S EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, MARTIN SCHALLER.

2. THE DEPARTMENT BELIEVES VISITS TO THESE THREE COUNTRIES WOULD BE USEFUL AND IS PREPARED TO COVER THE COST OF INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL FOR MAYOR AND MRS. WASHINGTON UNDER UNCLASSIFIED

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CU STAG GRANTS. MR. SCHALLER'S TRAVEL WOULD BE FUNDED BY

THE MAYOR'S OFFICE.

3. MAYOR WASHINGTON WOULD BE AVAILABLE FOR TWO WEEKS BEGINNING JUNE 7. SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY OF AIR TRANSPORT HE PROPOSES TO ARRIVE MOSCOW SUNDAY, JUNE 8; DEPART MOSCOW FOR WARSAW JUNE 15; DEPART WARSAW FOR PRAGUE JUNE 18;

DEPART PRAGUE FOR WASHINGTON JUNE 21 WITH STOPOVER IN PARIS (AT OWN EXPENSE). ADDRESSEE POSTS ARE REQUESTED TO CONFIRM INVITATIONS AND WILLINGNESS OF HOST GOVERNMENTS TO RECEIVE THE WASHINGTON PARTY ON ABOVE DATES.

4. MAYOR WASHINGTON IS GRADUATE OF HOWARD UNIVERSITY AND ITS LAW SCHOOL. HE HAS SERVED AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL CAPITAL HOUSING AUTHORITY; CHIEF OF PUBLIC HOUSING, NEW YORK CITY; AND HAS BEEN MAYOR OF WASHINGTON, D.C., SINCE 1967. HIS PROGRAM INTERESTS INCLUDE HOUSING, URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING, URBAN TRANSPORTATION, AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS.

5. MRS. WASHINGTON IS GRADUATE OF HOWARD UNIVERSITY AND HAS PHD FROM CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY (IN SOCIOLOGY, COUNSELING AND GUIDANCE PSYCHOLOGY). SHE HAS SERVED AS TEACHER AND PRINCIPAL IN WASHINGTON, D.C., PUBLIC SCHOOLS AND AS ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR FOR WOMEN'S CENTER, JOB CORPS, OFFICE OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY. HER INTERESTS INCLUDE EDUCATION, GUIDANCE AND COUNSELING, CHILD DAY-CARE, AND EQUAL OCCUPATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN. MRS. WASHINGTON SHOULD HAVE SEPARATE PROFESSIONAL PROGRAM IN EACH COUNTRY.

6. WHILE THE WASHINGTONS WILL BE VISITING AT INVITATION OF HOST GOVERNMENTS, EMBASSIES MAY WISH TO CONSULT WITH LOCAL SPONSORS ON PROGRAM PLANS. AS FAR AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE, NO SPECIFIC PROGRAM PROPOSALS HAVE BEEN MADE BY THE EMBASSIES HERE. KISSINGER

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